**Executive**

**Horseshoe Falls Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

**Minutes**

**December 13, 2023, 4 PM**

**Via zoom**

**Roster:** Lennox Scarlett (President), John Hurst (Treasurer), Christina Crawford, James Grunden, Marilyn Johnston, Sula Anne Kosacky, Deborah Laforet, Wendy Lowden, Debbie McMillan, Adrianne Robertson, Pat Tooley, Yvonne Wright

**Staff:** Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa, Executive Minister, Sue Duliban, Executive Assistant

**Regrets:** James Grunden, Marilyn Johnston, Yvonne Wright

**Constitute Meeting:** President Lennox constituted this meeting in the name of Jesus Christ, the one true head of the Church and by the authority vested in me by Horseshoe Falls Regional Council for whatever business may properly come before it. The bounds of this meeting will be the zoom call.

**Welcome, Land Acknowledgement and Opening Prayer:** President Lennox welcomed all those gathered and offered a Land Acknowledgement, followed by prayer.

President Lennox also welcomed Cheryl-Ann back, for the next couple of months before she moves to General Council Office; noting that a time of celebration and appreciation of her work as Executive Minister was held at Avondale United, Stratford on December 12.

**Check-In Question**

Those gathered were asked to share with C-A one step forward the Executive or the group you represent at Executive took in helping the regional council live into its purpose or to respond to the evaluation during her sabbatical.

**Audited Financial Statements**

**Motion:** John Hurst / Debbie McMillan

That Horseshoe Falls Regional Council Executive approve the draft 2022 Financial Statements for Horseshoe Falls Regional Council as presented. **Carried.**

**Motion:** John Hurst / Pat Tooley

That Horseshoe Falls Regional Council Executive agrees to transfer the Internally Restricted Mission and Ministry Fund to the Unrestricted Reserve immediately.  **Carried.**

**Motion:** John Hurst / Adrianne Robertson

That Horseshoe Falls Regional Council Executive authorizes the transfer of funds from the General Fund to the Ker Tapleytown Fund to reduce the balance to “nil”. **Carried.**

**Motion:** John Hurst / Wendy Lowden

That Horseshoe Falls Regional Council Executive agrees to forward the December 31, 2022 balance in the Annie D. Bennett Fund to Wesley Urban Ministries to fulfill the purpose of the fund. **Carried.**

**Native People’s Retreat**

**Motion:** John Hurst / Debbie McMillan

That Horseshoe Falls Regional Council Executive authorizes an additional $1,000 support for the Ontario Quebec Native People's Retreat for 2023 to be paid directly to Five Oaks to cover the outstanding invoice. **Carried.**

**Clusters**

President Lennox raised the issue of forming clusters; regularizing and making the formation a little more formal. It was noted that some clusters have started organically. Oakville, Mississauga, Niagara and a collaboration in Brant County. President Lennox expressed his concern that clusters that develop organically have the potential to leave some out. It was agreed after some lengthy discussion that the topic of clusters needs more discussion and thought. The makeup of clusters the Executive is discussing needs to be determined. It was agreed that a discussion focusing solely on clusters, separate from the regular business of a regular Executive meeting, would be beneficial. Also agreed that this discussion should be held once Mark Laird begins as Executive Minister in March.

**New Business**

Motion: John Hurst

That Horseshoe Falls Regional Council adopt a full audit for the 2023 accounts.

After confirmation that Proposal #2 from the Fall 2023 HFRC meeting addressed this issue and was passed at that meeting, John Hurst withdrew the motion.

President Lennox thanked all those gathered for attending the meeting and wished all a wonderful Christmas.

Adjournment